BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Service BC
Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services

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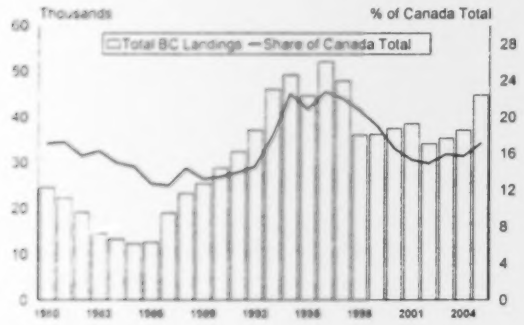
Immigration Highlights ◆ First Quarter 2006

B.C. and Canada immigrant landings remained steady during the first quarter of 2006 . . .

Total immigrant landings in B.C. during the first quarter of 2006 were 10,232 persons. This level was similar to the 10,504 immigrants recorded during the first quarter of 2005. Also, B.C.'s share of total Canadian immigrants was 18.6%, identical to the share observed in the first quarter of last year.

Total landings for Canada also showed a similar trend at 55,008 persons, a slight decrease from the 56,438 persons recorded during the same period of last year. B.C. remained the second most popular destination for immigrants to Canada during this quarter. Ontario received the greatest number of immigrants at 27,428 and Quebec received 9,171 immigrants.

B.C. Immigration and Share of Canada Total

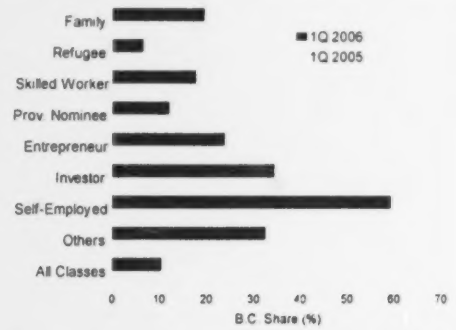


Skilled workers and sponsored family members formed the majority of immigrants . . .

Family reunification and filling labour market needs have always been major themes in Canadian immigration policy. As a result, immigrants admitted under the Family and Skilled Worker classes are the major categories of immigrants admitted to Canada and British Columbia. Of all landings to B.C. during the first quarter of 2006, 41.5% were in the Skilled Worker Class and 31.1% were in the Family Class. During this quarter, B.C. received a total of 3,190 immigrants in the Family Class and 4,246 in the Skilled Worked Class. The number of skilled workers decreased slightly while the number of family immigrants increased when compared to the first quarter of last year.

B.C. is the favoured destination for business immigrants . . .

B.C. Share of Immigrants to Canada By Class



B.C. tends to receive a relatively higher share of the business immigrants to Canada. B.C. attracted 34.5% of all entrepreneur immigrants, 59.3% of all investor immigrants, and 32.6% of all self-employed immigrants who arrived in Canada during this period. As usual, B.C. received more investor immigrants than any other province in the first quarter of 2006. Business immigrants represented 14.9% of all landings to B.C. during this period.

B.C. receives a relatively lower number of refugee immigrants . . .

Compared to other provinces, B.C. receives a much lower share of refugee immigrants. During this quarter, B.C. received a total of 417 refugees. This represents 4.1% of the total for Canada, which is a disproportionally lower share when compared to the overall immigrant share of 18.6%. Ontario and Quebec received the most refugee immigrants admitted to Canada. Currently, the majority of refugees arrived from Afghanistan, China, Colombia, Iran, Vietnam and other Middle-Eastern and African countries.

Asia is still the leading source . . .

Asian immigrants represented 77.7% of all landings in B.C. During the first quarter of 2006, eight of the top ten source countries of immigrants to B.C. were all in Asia. Mainland China, the leading source of immigrants, accounted for more than 28.8% of all immigrants to B.C. in this quarter. China is still the single most important source of business immigrants. A majority of immigrants from the rest of the top-ranking source countries were in the Family Class or Skilled Worker Class.

Most immigrants settled in the Greater Vancouver Area . . .

Three out of four immigrants who landed in B.C. during the first quarter of 2006 reported an intended destination within the Greater Vancouver area. Most Asian Immigrants chose to settle in the Greater Vancouver area and a relatively higher proportion of immigrants from non-Asian countries settled outside the Vancouver area.

Previously Released Feature Articles

Mar 2006	*Family Immigrants to British Columbia*
Dec 2005	*Skilled Work Immigrants to British Columbia*
Oct 2005	*Education Level of Recent Immigrants*
June 2005	*Immigrant s to B.C. Under the Provincial Nominee Program*
Mar 2005	*European Immigrants to B.C.*
Dec 2004	*A Summary of the Federal Immigration Plan for 2005*
Sep 2004	*2001 Residence of Recent Immigrants*
June 2004	*Business Immigrants to British Columbia*
Mar 2004	*Immigrants from India and China*
Dec 2003	*Twenty Years of Female Immigrants to B.C.*
Sep 2003	*Non-Permanent Residents & Citizenship*
Jun 2003	*Earnings of Recent Canadian Immigrants (Part 2)*
Mar 2003	*Earnings of Recent Canadian Immigrants*
Jan 2003	*Mother Tongue and Home Language*
Sep 2002	*English Language Ability of Recent Immigrants*
Jun 2002	*Immigrants as a Source of Labour Supply*
Feb 2002	*Refugee Immigrants to British Columbia*
Dec 2001	*Federal Immigration Plan for 2002*
Sep 2001	*Immigrants from South Korea*
Jun 2001	*Immigrants from India*

Special Immigration Feature will be available at a later date.

B.C. Immigration by Area of Last Permanent Residence
January to March, 2006
Total Landings: 10,232 Persons

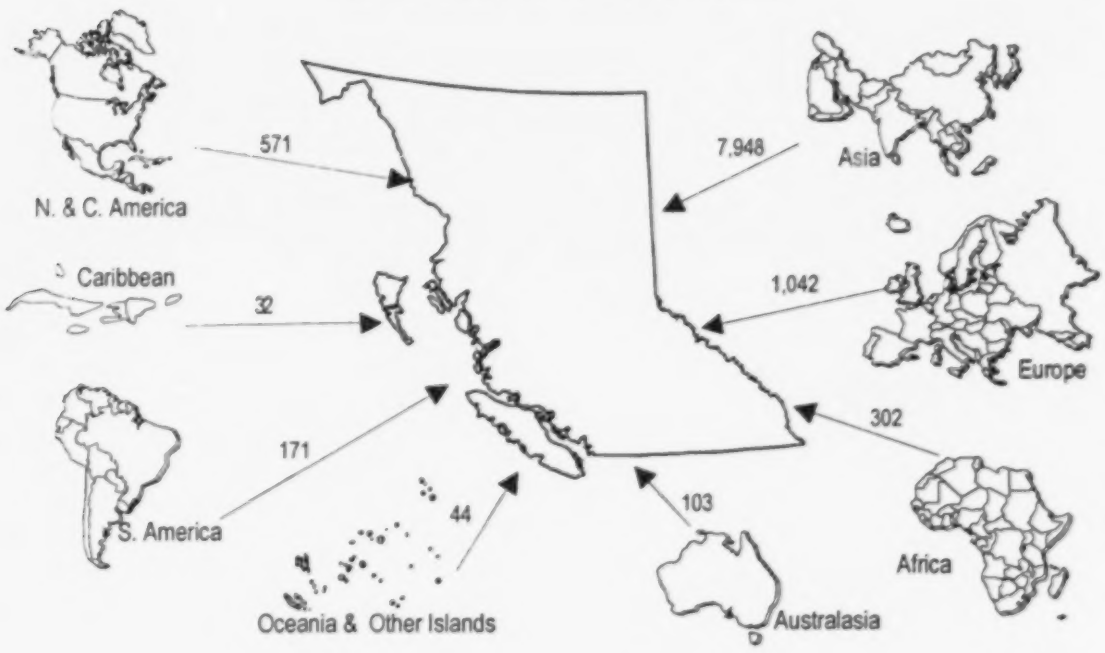


Table 1: Immigrant Landings to B.C. and Canada - January to March, 2006

SOURCE	Vancouver Area	Rest of B.C. *	Total B.C.	Canada	B.C. as a % of Canada
Europe	693	349	1,042	8,091	12.9%
Africa	205	97	302	5,054	6.0%
Asia	5,397	2,551	7,948	34,326	23.2%
China-Mainland	2,192	753	2,945	8,290	35.5%
India	663	795	1,458	7,202	20.2%
Taiwan	298	117	415	558	74.4%
Hong Kong	100	46	146	353	41.4%
Australasia	63	40	103	278	37.1%
N & C America	390	181	571	2,883	19.8%
U.S.A.	295	160	455	2,109	21.6%
Caribbean	18	14	32	1,304	2.5%
South America	126	45	171	2,723	6.3%
Oceania	20	24	44	195	22.6%
Not Stated	15	4	19	154	12.3%
All Areas	**6,927**	**3,305**	**10,232**	**55,008**	**18.6%**

** "Rest of B.C." also includes immigrants with unknown destination. Many might have been destined for Vancouver Area.*

Source BC STATS,
Date July, 2006

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Table 2: Immigrant Landings by Class

- British Columbia -

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1991	12,747	3,255	8,332	-	-	2,915	2,787	329	1,960	32,325
1992	15,149	2,993	7,278	-	-	3,971	4,529	480	2,605	37,005
1993	18,456	1,492	10,445	-	192	4,073	6,867	677	3,735	45,937
1994	17,517	1,544	14,149	-	870	4,182	6,291	744	3,819	49,116
1995	15,309	1,870	18,437	-	1,176	3,508	3,036	956	278	44,570
1996	14,289	2,275	24,183	-	1,160	4,235	3,448	1,564	877	52,031
1997	12,917	1,996	24,732	-	874	3,335	2,257	1,250	482	47,843
1998	11,083	2,041	17,002	-	1,275	1,918	1,606	746	306	35,977
1999	10,993	1,896	17,736	11	1,339	1,866	1,519	659	111	36,130
2000	10,977	2,574	18,939	13	1,070	1,775	1,387	632	68	37,435
2001	11,819	2,199	19,765	24	880	1,618	1,691	444	27	38,467
2002	11,407	2,109	15,614	206	504	1,193	1,948	526	548	34,055
2003	11,578	1,827	16,240	441	758	917	1,759	335	1,384	35,239
2004	10,871	2,367	17,089	598	1,083	693	3,221	246	854	37,022
2005	11,721	2,156	21,814	789	1,080	872	5,359	289	690	44,770
2005/1	2,209	474	5,521	211	247	180	1,420	80	162	10,504
2006/1	3,190	417	4,246	309	364	254	1,199	76	177	10,232

- Canada -

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1991	87,968	54,074	69,329	-	-	9,965	5,251	1,957	4,248	232,792
1992	101,125	52,348	67,414	-	-	15,874	9,694	2,821	5,544	254,820
1993	112,672	30,622	69,926	-	3,013	16,711	12,625	3,390	7,751	256,710
1994	94,195	20,435	69,909	-	4,981	14,201	10,480	2,745	7,454	224,400
1995	77,382	28,092	81,733	-	5,457	11,429	5,160	2,854	761	212,868
1996	68,359	28,478	97,916	233	4,759	11,911	6,176	4,376	3,864	226,072
1997	59,979	24,308	105,648	47	2,730	10,404	5,595	3,927	3,400	216,038
1998	50,898	22,842	81,266	-	2,868	6,618	4,534	2,625	2,547	174,198
1999	55,277	24,398	92,499	477	3,261	6,154	4,265	2,599	1,031	189,961
2000	60,612	30,092	118,599	1,252	2,783	6,187	4,951	2,527	460	227,463
2001	66,795	27,919	137,234	1,275	2,625	6,091	6,339	2,156	206	250,640
2002	62,304	25,124	122,728	2,127	1,985	4,479	4,635	1,907	3,758	229,047
2003	65,129	25,984	105,226	4,418	3,304	2,981	3,695	1,424	9,191	221,352
2004	62,260	32,687	113,442	6,248	4,292	2,474	6,099	1,190	7,132	235,824
2005	63,352	35,768	130,252	8,047	4,552	2,848	9,607	1,014	6,796	262,236
2005/1	12,279	8,578	28,405	1,592	981	599	2,308	228	1,468	56,438
2006/1	16,249	6,246	23,797	2,535	1,520	736	2,021	233	1,671	55,008

British Columbia as a Percent of Canada

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1991	14.5%	6.0%	12.0%	-	-	29.3%	53.1%	16.8%	46.1%	13.9%
1992	15.0%	5.7%	10.8%	-	-	25.0%	46.7%	17.0%	47.0%	14.5%
1993	16.4%	4.9%	14.9%	-	6.4%	24.4%	54.4%	20.0%	48.2%	17.9%
1994	18.6%	7.6%	20.2%	-	17.5%	29.4%	60.0%	27.1%	51.2%	21.9%
1995	19.8%	6.7%	22.6%	-	21.6%	30.7%	58.8%	33.5%	36.5%	20.9%
1996	20.9%	8.0%	24.7%	-	24.4%	35.6%	55.8%	35.7%	22.7%	23.0%
1997	21.5%	8.2%	23.4%	-	32.0%	32.1%	40.3%	31.8%	14.2%	22.1%
1998	21.8%	8.9%	20.9%	-	44.5%	29.0%	35.4%	28.4%	12.0%	20.7%
1999	19.9%	7.8%	19.2%	2.3%	41.1%	30.3%	35.6%	25.4%	10.8%	19.0%
2000	18.1%	8.6%	16.0%	1.0%	38.4%	28.7%	28.0%	25.0%	14.8%	16.5%
2001	17.7%	7.9%	14.4%	1.9%	33.5%	26.6%	26.7%	20.6%	13.1%	15.3%
2002	18.3%	8.4%	12.7%	9.7%	25.4%	26.6%	42.0%	27.6%	14.6%	14.9%
2003	17.8%	7.0%	15.4%	10.0%	22.9%	30.8%	47.6%	23.5%	15.1%	15.9%
2004	17.5%	7.2%	15.1%	9.6%	25.2%	28.0%	52.8%	20.7%	12.0%	15.7%
2005	18.5%	6.0%	16.7%	9.8%	23.7%	30.6%	55.8%	28.5%	10.2%	17.1%
2005/1	18.0%	5.5%	19.4%	13.3%	25.2%	30.1%	61.5%	35.1%	11.0%	18.6%
2006/1	19.6%	6.7%	17.8%	12.2%	23.9%	34.5%	59.3%	32.6%	10.6%	18.6%

Important Note: Due to the changes in the classifications of immigrants, some numbers reported in this release are not compatible with those in previous releases.

Source: BC STATS,
Date: July, 2006

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Immigration by Destination by Class
March - January, 2006

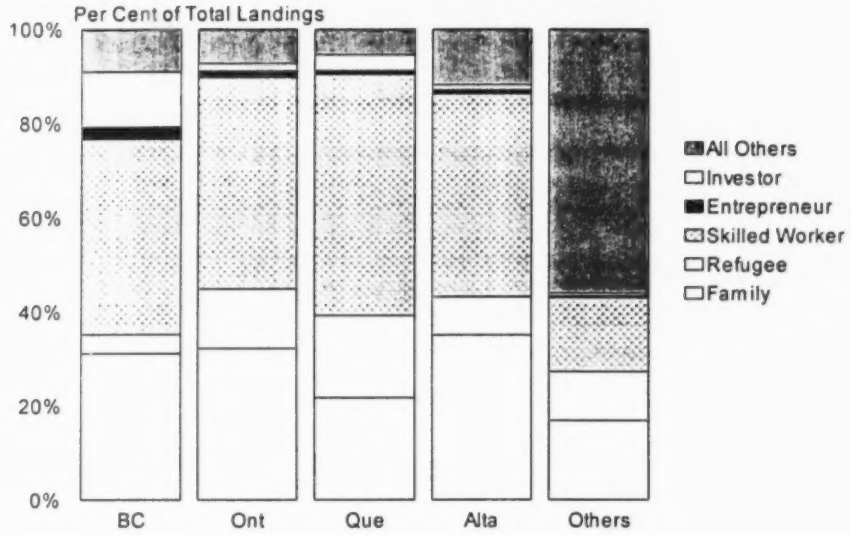


Table 3: Immigrant Landings by Province by Class

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
2005										
NFLD	82	164	138	85	1	0	3	0	23	**496**
P.E.I.	43	53	30	204	0	0	0	0	0	**330**
N.S.	461	202	772	326	3	50	64	8	43	**1,929**
N.B.	244	182	199	438	4	3	5	0	17	**1,092**
Que	8,355	7,161	24,143	26	413	323	1,239	149	1,499	**43,308**
Ont	35,029	21,890	72,353	483	2,186	1,466	2,698	379	4,049	**140,533**
Man	1,192	1,094	960	4,619	63	5	12	66	86	**8,097**
Sask	456	603	501	468	32	0	5	10	31	**2,106**
Alta	5,667	2,247	9,296	609	762	129	221	113	355	**19,399**
B.C.	11,721	2,156	21,814	789	1,080	872	5,359	289	690	**44,770**
Territories	96	4	37	0	7	0	0	0	3	**147**
Not Stated	6	12	10	0	1	0	1	0	0	**30**
Canada	**63,352**	**35,768**	**130,253**	**8,047**	**4,552**	**2,848**	**9,607**	**1,014**	**6,796**	**262,237**
2006 First Quarter										
NFLD	16	27	46	24	0	0	0	0	3	**116**
P.E.I.	4	6	4	43	0	0	0	0	0	**57**
N.S.	96	32	164	152	1	11	13	6	9	**484**
N.B.	49	42	37	194	7	1	3	0	1	**334**
Que	1,994	1,611	4,694	15	150	65	313	56	273	**9,171**
Ont	8,850	3,471	12,313	82	720	368	440	87	1,097	**27,428**
Man	316	196	158	1,437	10	0	1	1	14	**2,133**
Sask	111	73	146	74	22	0	4	2	10	**442**
Alta	1,608	371	1,977	205	242	37	48	5	87	**4,580**
B.C	3,190	417	4,246	309	364	254	1,199	76	177	**10,232**
Territories	10	0	8	0	4	0	0	0	0	**22**
Not Stated	5	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	**9**
Canada	**16,249**	**6,246**	**23,797**	**2,535**	**1,520**	**736**	**2,021**	**233**	**1,671**	**55,008**

Important Note: Due to the changes in the classifications of immigrants, some numbers reported in this release are not compatible with those in previous releases.

Source: *BC STATS,*
Date: *July, 2006*

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

B.C. Immigration by Top 10 Source by Class
January to March,2006

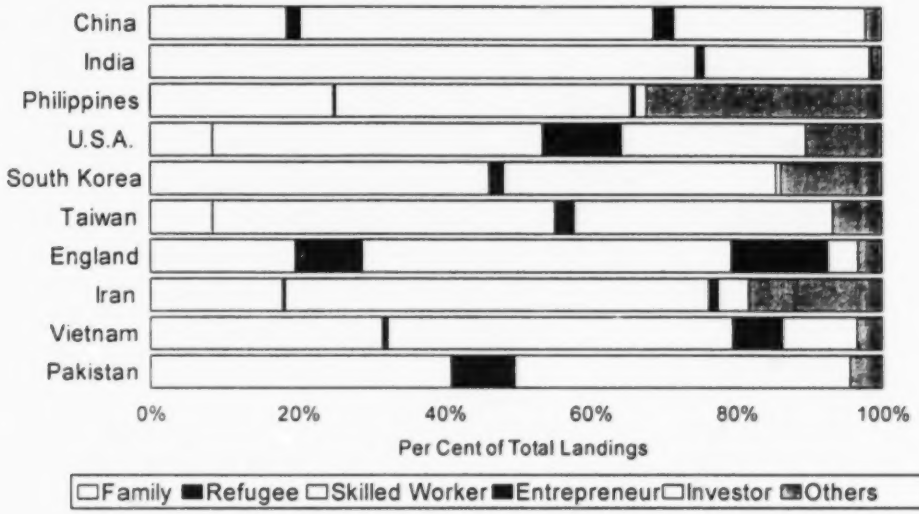


Table 4: B.C. Immigrant Landings by Source By Class, January - March, 2006

			Economic Classes							
	Family	Refugee	Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed	Other Classes	Grand Total
World Area										
Europe	236	23	617	92	7	9	16	10	32	1,042
Africa	64	118	82	26	2	-	-	-	10	302
Asia	2,483	215	3,212	136	351	237	1,167	44	103	7,948
Australasia	41	-	38	19	1	-	1	-	3	103
N&C America	255	21	214	28	1	-	8	22	22	571
Caribbean	25	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
S. America	41	30	71	8	2	8	7	-	4	171
Oceania & Isl.	33	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	2	44
Stateless	12	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	19
Top 20 Source Countries										
China	545	55	1,421	23	6	84	776	17	18	2,945
India	1,086	16	332	4	3	5	-	-	12	1,458
Philippines	284	3	463	12	340	6	18	-	18	1,144
South Korea	52	-	277	51	-	66	156	8	5	615
U.S.A.	210	9	170	28	1	-	3	17	17	455
Taiwan	35	-	194	8	1	11	147	18	1	415
Iran	71	33	183	-	-	48	15	1	11	362
England	59	1	190	46	-	4	14	7	7	328
Hong Kong	46	1	69	3	-	10	15	-	2	146
Pakistan	56	12	63	5	-	-	-	-	1	137
Vietnam	119	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	126
Romania	11	3	108	-	-	-	-	-	-	122
Japan	58	-	35	8	1	-	10	-	7	119
Russia	21	1	79	1	-	-	-	-	5	107
Mexico	32	5	42	-	-	-	5	5	2	91
Australia	36	-	25	7	1	-	-	-	1	70
Thailand	29	2	30	-	-	2	-	-	-	63
Germany	26	-	20	4	-	5	-	1	2	58
South Africa	7	1	25	22	-	-	-	-	1	56
Afghanistan	3	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Others	404	223	519	87	11	13	40	2	65	1,364
Total	**3,190**	**417**	**4,246**	**309**	**364**	**254**	**1,199**	**76**	**177**	**10,232**

Important Note: Due to the changes in the classifications of immigrants, some numbers reported in this release are not compatible with those in previous releases.

Source: *BC STATS,*
Date: *July, 2006*

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

GLOSSARY

Business Immigrants-Immigrants in the Entrepreneur, Investor, or Self-employed Class.

Economic Immigrants-Immigrants admitted under the Skilled Worker Class, Live-In Caregiver Program, and in the business classes.

Entrepreneur Class-Includes those persons (and dependents) who intend to establish or purchase a substantial interest in a business in Canada creating or maintaining employment for more than one Canadian citizen.

Family Class-Includes spouses, fiancés, dependent children, and parents or grandparents sponsored by a Canadian citizen.

Investor Class-Includes those persons (and dependents) with a proven track record and substantial net worth who are willing to make a large investment for at least three years in specified activities that will contribute to the creation or continuation of employment opportunities in Canada.

Landed Immigrants-Immigrants who are granted permanent resident status in Canada, and who have actually entered Canada.

Other Classes-Include immigrants in the Retired Class (no longer exist), Deferred Removal Order Class, permit holders applying for permanent residence in Canada, and persons admitted under humanitarian/compassionate grounds, as well as persons admitted under certain public policy related to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

Provincial/Territorial Nominees-persons who are selected and nominated by the provincial or territorial governments as immigrants. They are mainly skilled workers admitted to fill critical labour shortage in the province/territories.

Refugees-persons who meet the definition specified by the United Nation Refugee Convention. These include both government and privately sponsored refugees, Asylum refugees, and dependants abroad of refugees

Self Employed Class-Includes those persons (and dependents) who intend to establish a business in Canada that will employ him/herself, and will make a significant contribution to the economy.

For further information on the specific class of immigrants described here, please visit the Citizenship and Immigration Canada website at www.cic.gc.ca